exchequer should be permanently sealed and the responsibility should be fixed for those 2G complaints and the scandal that is involved.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, legally speaking, we cannot term it as 'scandal'. I had several rounds of talks with hon. Finance Minister. The company that has been awarded spectrum and the licence, as I said earlier, the FDI says that 74 per cent can be sold to any other company. The Government is keen that the induction of the money into the company should be for the betterment of the business of the company which is duly permitted. A person should not be allowed to sell his equity for his personal benefit. That has been already cleared in the norms itself. So, there is no question of scam or there is no question of getting money into individual's pocket. It will come to the company and the corporate law is very clear — Mr. Arun Jaitley is a senior lawyer — that the money is going to be inducted into the company which will be definitely used for the purpose for which the company is floated, not personal.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, the point has not been clarified. The allottee earned a premium.

SHRI A. RAJA: There is no personal premium at all.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: He is doing business out of a national property. That thing must be clarified.

Domestic tourism

*3. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of domestic tourists was 527 million in the year 2007, covering adventure and cultural sites, pilgrimages and wildlife parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of domestic tourists in Andhra Pradesh sites and the revenue earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (c) The number of domestic tourist visits to different tourist places in the country, including adventure and cultural sites, pilgrimage centres, wildlife parks, etc. during the year 2007 was 527 million., The State-wise figures of domestic tourist visits for 2007 are given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below). With 127.93 million domestic tourist visits, Andhra Pradesh ranked first amongst all States/UTs in 2007. The district-wise details of domestic tourist visits in Andhra Pradesh during 2007 are given in the enclosed Statement-II (*See* below). Revenue earnings of Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC) during April, 2007 to March, 2008 were Rs. 10089.13 lakhs. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

Statement-I

Details of Domestic Tourist Visits of States/UTs during 2007

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of Domestic Tourist Visits
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	127933333
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	91100
3.	Assam	3436833
4.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	136015
5.	Bihar	10352887
6.	Chandigarh	928159
7.	Chhattisgarh*	414322
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	473489
9.	Daman and Diu	446490
10.	Delhi**	2388330
11.	Goa	2208986
12.	Gujarat	13477316
13.	Haryana	6252945
14.	Himachal Pradesh	8481988
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	7915271
16.	Jharkhand	4906394
17.	Karnataka	37825953
18.	Kerala	6642941
19.	Lakshadweep	16642
20.	Madhya Pradesh	13894500
21.	Maharashtra*	19226716
22.	Manipur	101484
23.	Meghalaya	457685
24.	Mizoram	43161
25.	Nagaland	22085
26.	Orissa	5944890
27.	Punjab	368593

1	2	3
28.	Puducherry	798528
29.	Rajasthan	25920529
30.	Sikkim	329075
31.	Tamil Nadu	70254972
32.	Tripura	244795
33.	Uttar Pradesh	116244008
34.	Uttarakhand	19803280
35.	West Bengal	18580669
	TOTAL:	526564364

*Estimated using all India growth rate

**Estimated using tourist visits figures of sample of hotels furnished by State Government.

Statement-II

The district-wise details of domestic tourist visits in Andhra Pradesh during 2007

Sl. No.	District	Domestic Tourist Visits
1	2	3
1.	Srikakulam	4105219
2.	Vizianagaram	378921
3.	Visakhapatnam	3146333
4.	East Godavari	6020387
5.	West Godavari	1594597
6.	Krishna	8149542
7.	Guntur	596498
8.	Prakasam	434291
9.	Nellore	957105
10.	Chittoor	43499207
11.	Cuddapah	258489
12.	Anantapur	488704
13	Kurnool	7659707

1	2	3
14.	Mahbubnagar	9201913
15.	Hyderabad and Rangareddy	8555380
16.	Medak	15757
17.	Nizamabad	355018
18.	Adilabad	10219335
19.	Karimnagar	4872182
20.	Warangal	1648679
21.	Khammam	9109639
22.	Nalgonda	6666430
	TOTAL:	127933333

Statement-III

Details of revenue earnings of Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC) during April, 2007 *to March,* 2008

Sl. No.	Unit	Revenue earning (Rs. lakh)
1	2	3
1.	Keesaragutta	38.63
2.	Zoopark Cafetaria	16.58
3.	Salarjung Museum	58.45
4.	Durgamcheru Cafetaria	138.93
5.	Tankbund Restaurant	60.93
6.	Zaheerabad Restaurant	33.42
7.	Botanical Garden	9.28
8.	Nacharam	4.48
9.	Taramati Baradari	293.17
10.	Mehtab	0.06
11.	Basara	30.71
12.	Yadigirigutta	54.96
13.	Pregnapur	7.67

1	2	3
14.	Hussainsagar	357.75
15.	Miralamtank	11.36
16.	Durgamcheru	72.22
17.	LMD (Warangal)	6.58
18.	Golkonda	64.71
(I)	**Hyderabad**	**1259.89**
19.	Yatrinivas Vizag	147.00
20.	Rishikonda Beach Resort	277.69
21.	Araku (Valley Resort)	186.49
22.	Anantagiri	12.65
23.	Tyda	63.55
24.	Anantagiri Resort	48.26
25.	Mayuri (Hill Resort)	74.14
26.	Borra Caves	150.34
27.	Toy Train	3.07
28.	Transport (Vizag)	221.10
29.	WFU Rishikonda	21.47
30.	WFU Srikakulam	2.32
(II)	**Vizag**	**1208.08**
31.	Tirumala Guest House	15.83
32.	Horsely Hills	143.71
33.	Puttur	36.76
34.	Kuppam	39.19
35.	Srinivasam Restaurant	167.67
36.	Srinivasam Accommodation	215.34
37.	Talakona	6.72
38.	Kailasanathakona	3.74
39.	Gandi	10.20
40.	Alakanpally	38.18
41.	Chandragire	25.86
42.	Transport (Tirupati)	1576.99

1	2	3
43.	Mylavaram	1.05
44.	Nellore	18.01
(III)	**Tirupathi**	**2299.25**
45.	Berampark	192.61
46.	Amaravati	5.73
47.	Dwaraka Tirumala	20.78
48.	Bhavani Islands	76.20
49.	Suryalanka	31.63
50.	Dhanyakataka	3.25
51.	Kotappakonda	0.66
52.	Vijayawada	61.41
53.	Rajahmundry	99.52
54.	Rajahmundry (DINDI)	13.43
55.	Dindi Resort	7.30
(IV)	**Vijyawada**	**512.52**
56.	Vijayavihar	150.89
57.	Launch Unit (Restaurant)	9.25
58.	Ettipotala (Hotels)	15.46
59.	Ettipotala	32.18
60.	Launch Unit	85.65
61.	Badrachalam	130.64
62.	Suryapet	46.86
(V)	**Nagarjuna Sagar**	**470.93**
63.	Mahandi	8.29
64.	Yatrinivas Kurnool	109.35
65.	Srisailam Resort	118.31
66.	Puttaparthy	24.73
67.	Orvakal	20.78
68.	Belumcaves	35.39
69.	Ahobilam	13.05
70.	Dornala	24.70

1	2	3
71.	Ropeway Srisailam	105.65
72.	Srisailam	34.17
73.	Transport (Kumool)	15.38
(VI)	**Kumool**	**509.80**
74.	Transport Secbad	2701.66
(VII)	**Leasings**	**1127.00**
	TOTAL:	10089.13

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Has the Government any proposal to make the world-famous pilgrimage, Tirupati, as an international tourism spot to attract more people?

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, Tirupati is already a very important tourist destination. In fact, I would like to say that in Andhra Pradesh, the place visited by the highest number of tourists is Tirupati. But, we would like to do as much as we can to promote it even further and we will do whatever is possible whenever the State Government gives us proposal.

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Has the Government any proposal to improve the adjoining areas of Papi Kondalu situated in East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh to attract more tourists? If so, the details thereof.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, as I said, as and when we receive proposals from the State Government, we consider them under various schemes, whether it is mega-circuit, mega-destination or tourist circuit.

I must say that Andhra Pradesh is one of the States which is taking maximum benefit and highest numbers of tourists are going to Andhra Pradesh. We would like to promote tourism even further in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, many times, it is reported in the media and the press that the inflow of tourists have come down due to the global meltdown and other financial crisis. I am inclined to ask as to how far it has affected tourism in India. Added to that, I would also like to ask the Minister as to whether any SWOT analysis has been done and what is the greatest problem in attracting tourists in India.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, I must confess that tourism arrivals in India did go down in the wake of the global economic slowdown. In this connection, through you, Sir, I would like to share some figures with this House.

Sir, in 2008, the tourist arrival in India was 5.6 per cent whereas the world tourist arrival was 1.8 per cent. In 2007, it was 14.3 per cent for India and it declined went to 5.6 per cent; whereas it was 6.8 per cent for the world it declined went to 1.8 per cent. So, India has not been that badly affected. While the decline was much more in the earlier months in the wake of Mumbai blasts, the decline has gone down considerably and from 10 per cent, now in the month of May,

it was about only 1.9 per cent, and, in the coming months, we hope to see a rise in foreign tourist arrivals in the country.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Sir, the question is very much related to the State of Andhra Pradesh. The first part of the question is related to the domestic tourism. The only thing which I would like to know is with regard to improving the domestic tourism. There is a plan to promote tea-tourism in the State of West Bengal, especially in Darjeeling. There is ample scope for that. On behalf of the Government of West Bengal, we had a discussion with the Tourism Department of the Government of India. May I know, through you, Sir, what is the plan of the Government of India to do this? Will the Minister come out with some information?

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, we must definitely increase the domestic tourism within the country and for that, we plan to have many events. We plan to have media campaign for domestic tourism; the incredible-India campaign will be extended to our own domestic market.

As far as Bengal and that area is concerned, we are planning to have a road show for the eastern region to show case that part of our country to the domestic market because in the wake of global economic slow down, we must increase domestic tourism in our country. As a part of our strategy, we are soon going to have a road show in Bengal.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, in order to increase tourists in the country, whether domestic or international, one of the things which is required is to increase the room capacity in each State, that is, providing more and more hotels, whether they are five star, two star, three star, or, whatever.

Sir, for the guidance of the tourists, categorisation of hotels is a must. I would like to know whether there is any law which permits either the Central Government or the State Governments to categorise hotels, especially, the five star hotels. Who categorises these five star and other hotels? Whether the concerned State Government has this power or it is the Central Government, which does this categorisation. Sir, I am asking this question because in Goa, there was some controversy about this.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, it is the Central Government, the Ministry of Tourism, which categorises these hotels into different star categories.

Earmarked seats for diaspora children

*4. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:††

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has earmarked certain percentage of seats in higher education for diaspora children;

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Santosh Bagrodia.